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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ricardo Azpiroz et al.      Art Unit : 1638  
Serial No. : 09/502,426      Examiner : Ashwin Mehta  
Filed : February 11, 2000  
Title : DWF4 POLYNUCLEOTIDES, POLYPEPTIDES AND USES THEREOF

**BOX RCE**

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

**In the specification:**

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 31, to page 12, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Figure 3 depicts alignment of cytochrome P450 proteins that exhibited the most similarity to DWF 4 (SEQ ID NO:2) in BLAST searches. GenBank accession numbers are AF044216 (DWF4; CYP90B) (SEQ ID NO:2), X87368 (CPD; CYP90A) (SEQ ID. NO:19), U54770 (tomato; CYP85) (SEQ ID NO:20), D64003 (cyanobacteria; CYP120) (SEQ ID NO:21), U32579 (maize; CYP88) (SEQ ID NO:22), U68234 (zebrafish; CYP26) (SEQ ID NO:23), and M13785 (human; CYP3A3X) (SEQ ID NO:24). Dashes indicate gaps introduced to maximize alignment. Domains indicated in Figure 2B are highlighted in a box. Amino acid residues that are conserved >50% between the compared sequences are highlighted by a reverse font, and identical residues between DWF4 and CPD are boxed and italicized. Open triangles are placed under the 100% conserved residues (SEQ ID NO:25). Closed triangles locate functionally important amino acid residues, for example, threonine (T) at 369, which is thought to bind

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